indicated that total exports from Small Scale Sector as Rs. 25307.09 crores in 1993-94, as Rs. 29068.15 crores in 1994-95 and as Rs. 36470.22 crores in 1995-96. These work out to 36.28%, 35.16% and 34.26% of total exports of the country on the basis of DGCI&S data.

[English]

Posts of Judges in the High Courts.

4417. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are maintaining any ratio in regard to the population of a State and the number of judges to be provided for the High Court of that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the present ratio of population in the High Courts of different States;

(d) whether any suggestions have been made by the Law Commission in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In fixing the judge strength of a High Court, institution and pendency of cases is considered to be more relevant a criterion than the population it serves.

(c) A statement showing the requisite information is attached.

(d) & (e) Taking into consideration the requirement of Judges in all cadres vis-a-vis the population, in 1987, the 11th Law Commission, in its 120th Report, inter-alia, recommended that the then strength of 10.5 Judges per million population be increased to 50 Judges per million population.

Statement

S.No.	High Court	Jurisdiction	Approved Judge Strength	Total Population served (1991 Census)	Population served by each post of Judge
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	77	13,91,12,287	18,06,653
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	39	06,65,08,008	17,05,334
3.	Bombay	Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	60	08,03,47,043	13,39,117
4.	Calcutta	West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	50	06,83,58,626	13,67,172
5.	Delhi	Delhi	33	94,20,644	2,85,474
6.	Gauhati	Assam, Meghalaya Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh	19	03,15,7,314	16,60,385
7.	Gujarat	Gujarat	42	04,13,09,532	9,83,561
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	8	51,70,877	6,46,359
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu & Kashmir	11	77,18,700	7,01,700

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Karnataka	Karnataka	40	04,49,77,201	11,24,430
11.	Kerala	Kerala, Lakshdweep	29	02,91,50,225	10,05,180
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	35	06,61,81,170	18,90,890
13.	Madras	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	42	05,66,66,731	13,49,208
14.	Orissa	Orissa	16	03,16,59,736	19,78,733
15.	Patna	Bihar	39	08,63,74,465	22,14,729
16.	Punjab & Haryana	Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh	40	03,73,87,632	9,34,690
17.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan	32	04,40,06,000	13,75,188
18.	Sikkim	Sikkim	3	04,06,457	1,35,485

Singarani Collieries Limited

4418. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take over Singarani Collieries Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Singarani Collieries Limited is incurring heavy losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make it profitable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is already a Government Company. It is a joint venture of Government of Andhra Pradesh holding 51% of the share capital and Government of India holding 49% of the share capital.

(c) and (d) SCCL earned profit of Rs. 16.26 crores and Rs. 25 crores in 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively. However, the company incurred a loss of Rs. 191 crores in 1995-96 due to the following reasons

(i) There were two major strikes by workers spread over 40 days during April-May, 1995 and October-November, 1995 demanding early wage settlement as per National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA)-V. The strikes caused a production loss of 3.30 Million Tonnes in 1995-96.

(ii) Almost all the production of SCCL is of D,E,F & G grades on non-coking coal. Out of these grades, the price of only grade D non-coking coal has been deregulated in March, 1997. The prices of administered grades of coal were last revised in June, 1994. Owing to the non revision of prices of administered grades due in June 1995 and June 1996, the company was not able to neutralise escalation in input costs and impact of NCWA-V agreement with revised dearness allowance pattern. The impact of NCWA-V during 1995-96 alone was Rs. 82 crores.

(e) In March, 1997 the Government have deregulated the price of D grade of non-coking coal and allowed SCCL to fix the prices of E, F and G grades of non-coking coal every six months till January, 2000 by updating the cost indices as per the escalation formula contained in the 1987 report of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices. The Government have also decided to deregulate the prices of E, F and G grades of non-coking coal after 1st January, 2000.

It is expected with the implementation of the above decisions the company will earn profits.

Sale of Uptron

4419. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :